

(New West Coast Bible School Is Ready for Construction)

## California's Progress Report

( See Story on Page 8 )

## BULLETIN BOARD

### Notice

Reach the unchurched with a  
**BRANCH SUNDAY SCHOOL!**  
**OCTOBER is BRANCH**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL MONTH!**

Anyone having relatives at Fort Lewis Army Base, please send their names and addresses and I shall be glad to visit them. The address of the church is 62 Second and Warner Streets.—L. O. Cooper, 318 E. 96th Street, Tacoma 44, Washington.

If you are a preacher with a zeal to work for God, you have a splendid opportunity here in the beautiful Ozark Mountains in Missouri. We desperately need a good Christian man to take over the work here. Write to the clerk of the Tucker, Missouri, Church of God, whose address is Louis H. Poole, Route 1, Gatewood, Missouri.

To anyone having friends or relatives stationed in the Air Force at Cheyenne, Wyoming, the Church of God is located on 1613 East 22nd Street. The pastor is the Reverend Thomas McQuay, phone 2-5642.

Good Friday will be prayer day for the simultaneous revival which will begin Easter Sunday, running two weeks.

## NEWS FLASH!

As of September 30—946 Sunday School have entered the big nation-wide Sunday School Contest which begins October 6.

Let us join in prayer that this will be the greatest evangelistic crusade ever sponsored by the National Sunday School and Youth Department and that thousands of people will be won to Christ as these 946 Sunday Schools unite their efforts to follow through with the contest theme:

**"PRESENT CHRIST THROUGH THE  
SUNDAY SCHOOL."**

—O. W. Polen  
National Director

Vol. 48, No. 32

October 14, 1957

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# CHURCH OF GOD Evangel

America's Oldest Pentecostal Publication

CHARLES W. CONN, Editor

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### DECLARATION OF FAITH

#### WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible. 2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor. 4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins. 5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. 6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost. 7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people. 8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart. 9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. 10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. 11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement. 12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet. 13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second to reign on the earth a thousand years. 14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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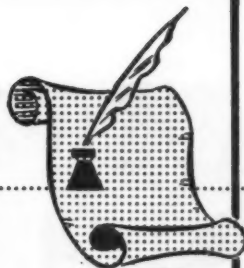
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# Can a Christian

## Be Demon Possessed?



## The Editor's Message

**T**HIS IS AN INSTANCE of truth being pushed too far. As was pointed out last week, only recently has demon possession come to be recognized as a reality by modern minds. The doctrine has been greatly revived in our generation because only demonic power can account for the evil and depravity all about us. Naturalism and psychology having failed to explain or even to understand many of the conditions that plague mankind today, the Biblical teaching of demon possession has been widely re-examined and accepted. Demon power alone can account for much of today's evil and misery.

### THE PRESENT DANGER

This truth having been re-established, there is now danger of pushing truth too far by branding too much as demon possession. There is a danger of pushing back into the Middle Ages of fear and superstition.

One of today's most dangerous suggestions is that even a child of God may be possessed by a demon. Those who teach this are usually overzealous in establishing the reality and prevalence of demon power. Their motive may not be bad, but they do not stop to think what terrible damage they may do, what fear they may create or of what glory they rob God.

Ordinarily it is pointed out that a demon cannot possess a Christian's soul or his heart, but only his body. I maintain on the authority of God's holy Word that a demon cannot possess a Christian's spirit, soul or body. The idea that a demon may dwell in a Christian's body rises from still another error, that all sickness or disease is demon possession.

### SICKNESS AND DEMONS

Some sickness is caused by demonic power, but not all. If it were, then Jesus would have done all His healing by casting out the demon that caused it. But He didn't. Mark 1:34 states, "He healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils." Note that He did not heal by casting out devils. The act of healing and the act of casting out devils are clearly separated.

Because some sickness was caused by demon possession and some was not, Jesus had to discern between demonic and natural maladies.

In Matthew 12:22 we read of a man who had a demon of blindness. In order to heal him Jesus had to cast out the devil that caused the blindness. Now note another blind man, in John 9:1-7, whom Jesus healed by anointing his eyes with an ointment of clay and spittle. Thus we have two blind men: one made blind by a demon and one born blind; one was healed by casting out the demon and one was healed by anointing with spittle and washing with water. The effect of their blindness was the same, they could not see; but the cause was different. Jesus had to discern between the two. The undiscerning observer could not have noted any difference between them. The same will apply to deafness, dumbness, cancer, epilepsy, or any other sickness. The Scriptures are very careful in pointing out when sickness was caused by a demon, and very careful in distinguishing between simple healing and the exorcising of a devil.

Some sickness—most sickness—is caused by a violation of nature's laws. If I should stand barefooted in the snow and catch pneumonia, would a demon possess me simply because I had no shoes? And could penicillin or hot lemonade drive him out? Such a thought is ridiculous.

If I were to fall off a ladder and break my arm, would a devil come in simply because gravity drew me to the ground, and would the demon leave after my bones knit together again? Ridiculous, is it not? Such a thought makes demon power and divine power fickle and capricious. In both instances the affliction would have resulted from a transgression of nature's law.

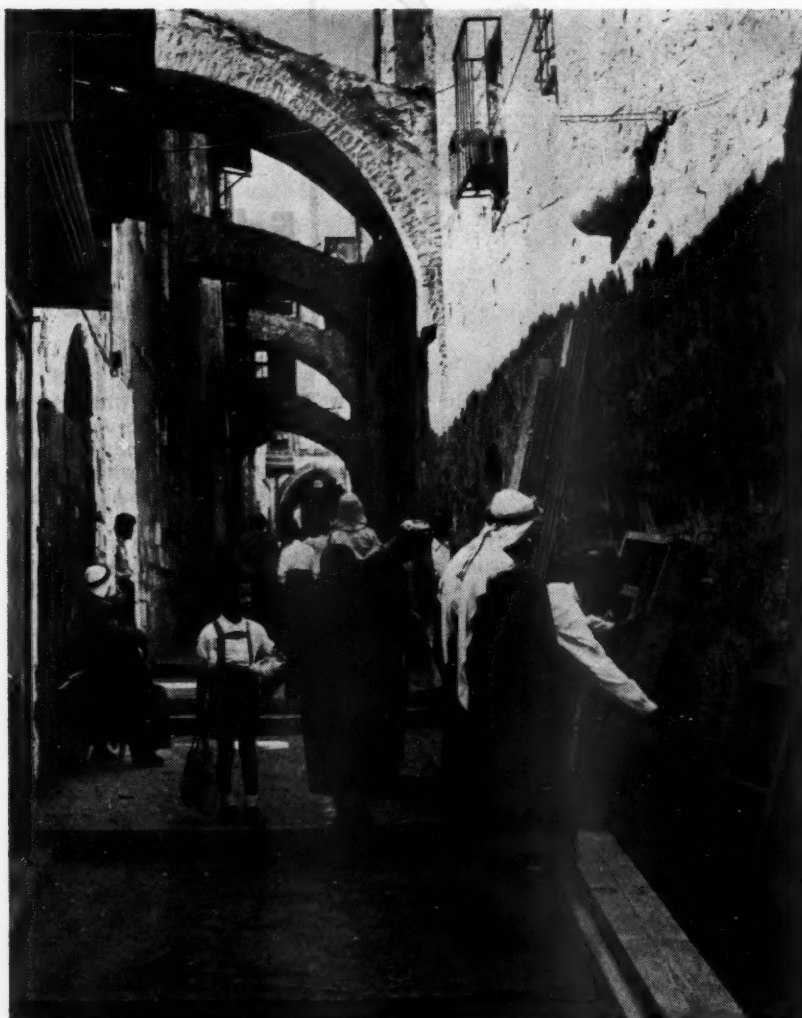
### CHRISTIANS AND DEMONS

No child of God can be demon possessed, in spirit, soul or body. He may be blind, but it will be a natural affliction and not a demon. It may look no different from the blindness caused by demon possession, but it is different. Healing is what he needs, not to have a devil cast out of him. No demon is or can be in a genuine Christian.

When Moses put his hand into his bosom (Exodus 4:6) and contracted leprosy "white as snow" (which means it was an advanced and severe case, was he possessed by a demon? No, not even for a moment.

(Continued on page 11)





Jerusalem, Jordan, Via Dolorosa

Philip Gendreau, N. Y.

# Israel— God's Irrefutable Timepiece

Conclusion

By George L. Britt

Pastor, Greer, South Carolina

**T**HE REGATHERING of Israel, the second coming of Christ, and the rapture of the saints are closely connected chronologically. It is an admitted fact that they are not all back and those that are, are still unconverted, but there is a remnant back home and the world beholds a self-governed Israel in the homeland after 2,000 years in exile.

The hands on God's world clock are nearing a momentous hour. Some of the most reiterated promises in God's Word are that Israel will be gathered back to the homeland. It would become monotonous and consume too much space to give all of the Scriptures

referring to the regathering of Israel. The following are sufficient to prove that their return is not an accident of history but the fulfillment of the Scriptures, "Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that it shall no more be said, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; but, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he hath driven them: and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers," Jeremiah 16:14, 15.

"Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy

seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth," Isaiah 43:5, 6.\*

A most significant fact to us today is that almost without exception the Scriptures connect the regathering of Israel with the second coming of the Son of God and the beginning of the kingdom age. For instance, Zephaniah 3:20 reads, "At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you." What is meant by *at that time*? The preceding verses 8-20 have just described the glories of the kingdom when the Lord will be in the midst of Israel. A pure language shall be given to the people that they shall serve the Lord with one consent, and Israel shall not see evil any more. This can mean nothing but the kingdom age. At *that time*—the beginning of the kingdom age—Israel shall be regathered. Again in Micah 4:6, we read: "In that day, saith the Lord, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted." The *that day* here means the same as in all kindred passages. The five preceding verses of this chapter tell how the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established, the Lord shall judge among many nations, they shall beat their swords into plowshares, their spears into pruninghooks, nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. Every Bible student knows that this describes the beginning of the millennial reign. The Scriptures state that in *that day* (near the beginning of the millennium) Israel will be regathered. So is the trend throughout prophecy—the regathering of Israel is connected with the soon coming of the Lord to begin the literal kingdom of heaven.

IN THE BOOKS OF Daniel and Revelation God reveals much of the last seven years of Israel's history before the promised kingdom begins. Israel has to be back in the land as an autonomous nation before the events of this week of years can transpire. Daniel learned from Jeremiah 25:11, 12 that seventy years were determined for the Jews to be in captivity in Babylon. While Daniel was praying for God to hasten the day, God revealed something of far greater importance than the seventy years. God revealed that seventy weeks were determined for Israel to be under gentile domination before the kingdom blessings could come in (Daniel 9:24-27). History and the fulfillment of prophecy have proved these weeks to be weeks of years. These weeks were divided into three divisions: seven weeks, sixty-two weeks, and one week. These weeks were to begin at the going forth to restore and to build Jerusalem, which was

\*Those interested in further references should also note Deuteronomy 30:3-5; Jeremiah 23:3, 7, 8; 29:14; 30:10; 31:8-10; Ezekiel 11:17; 20:34; 28:25; 37:21; Isaiah 54:7-10; Zechariah 10:9, 10; Micah 2:12; Romans 11:25. In fact, there are more Scriptures stating directly that Israel will be regathered than there are stating directly the first advent of Jesus.

445 B.C., when Nehemiah returned by permission of Artaxerxes (Nehemiah 2:6). Satan has tried to stigmatize prophetic Scriptures by causing men to set dates. Here God sets dates and when God does it, history authenticates the dates. In seven weeks, plus sixty-two weeks, the Messiah was to come and be cut off (crucified). Seven plus sixty-two equals sixty-nine weeks. Seven years times sixty-nine years equals 483 years. Therefore, God's prophetic Scripture states that Christ would be crucified 483 years from the time Nehemiah began to build. From 445 B.C. to A.D. 30, the year Christ was crucified, is only 475 years; therefore, many have thought they have found a discrepancy in the Bible. When we substitute the scriptural year of 360 days for the astronomical year of 365¼ days, we have the 483 years. Here again the Scriptures stand immutable. Christ came and was crucified the very year it had been foretold that it would occur.

Hidden from the Old Testament prophets in the councils of God was the mystery of the church, the age which has filled the 1,900 years parenthesis between the sixty-ninth and seventieth weeks. God ceased to deal with Israel as a nation in their own land when they rejected and crucified their King. They were broken off for a time that the gentiles might be grafted in by faith (Romans 11:17-20). During this parenthesis between the sixty-ninth and seventieth weeks the gentiles have been the recipients of God's grace. Yet there remains hanging in suspension as it were the seventieth week of Israel's history. This is destined to be earth's most momentous week until she is worked over by fire. More world-shaking events will be crowded into this seven years than into any century of man's existence.

This week of seven years is destined to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. This week is so world-shaking that God takes fourteen chapters of the book of Revelation to describe it (Revelation 6:1-19:21).

This week is known in Scripture as the time of Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:7), and also as the great tribulation (Matthew 24:21; Revelation 7:14). Christ referring to the last half of this week said there never has been a time like it and never shall be again. At the beginning of this week, Israel will confirm a covenant with the Antichrist, the ruler of the ten confederated nations within the territory of the old Roman Empire. When their King came to Israel they rejected Him and crucified Him. Christ referring to this covenant with the Antichrist says, "I am come in my Father's name and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive" (John 5:43). In the middle of the week, the Antichrist will break his covenant (Daniel 9:27). At this time, the Jews will experience the most intense agony of their agony-filled history. This week just ahead is the darkest hour just before the dawn of the glorious kingdom they have hoped for so long, when Christ

will sit on the throne at Jerusalem and the knowledge of the Lord will cover the earth like the waters cover the sea (Isaiah 11:9).

Because of the synchronizing of current events with so many of the prophetic Scriptures surely the "time of the Gentiles" is near an end and God is ready to take up the thread of Israel's history and fulfill the last week before the kingdom blessings begin. It is true that there are only 1.6 million Jews back in Israel now, but they are returning at a fast rate. In 1949, 243,500 returned; in 1951, 175,000 returned; and also the United Jewish Appeal is financing the return of an estimated 110,000 in 1957. A corresponding number have returned in the intervening years. In 1950 Israel brought back by air transport 50,000 Jews from Iraq alone. It is hardly conceivable, and difficult to prove scriptural, that all Jews will ever be back in Israel. The startling fact is that there is an Israel among the nations for the first time since A.D. 70. The stage is set for the last act in the drama of this age. The last pieces of the jigsaw puzzle of prophecy are being pushed into place by an omnipotent hand.

Another thing worthy of note is the significance of the number seven in the Scriptures. The extravagance of some "type and shadow" expositors has brought ill-repute on this system of interpretation. Many have used this method to wrest the Scriptures to make them fit their biased opinion. Some dwell so deep in the shadows that one cannot see the type. Yet there remains the fact that there are some prototypes and antitypes in the Scriptures. The number seven holds a very conspicuous prominence in God's Word and works. In the Scriptures we find seven seals, seven trumpets, seven vials, seven stars, seven candlesticks, seven spirits, etc. The references pertaining to seven fill almost two pages in *Cruden's Concordance*. A note under the word reads: "a sacred number among the Jews, also indicating perfection or completion. It was used very often in a symbolic manner for the whole of a thing. The number seven entered very largely into the religious life and observance of the Jews." God worked six days and the seventh He rested. As a memorial of this rest and as a sign between God and Israel, God demanded strict observance of the seventh day from Israel. Many students of the Bible believe that God intends for this world to groan under the effects of the fall for six thousand years and the seventh thousand years will be the millennium of rest. We know that God has dealt with man under six dispensations: Innocence, Conscience, Human Government, Promise, Law, and Grace. Grace has already lasted nearly 2,000 years. The next dispensation, which is the millennium kingdom age, will be the seventh. It is called in Scripture the dispensation of the fulness of times (Ephesians 1:10). In other words, it completes time and at its end eternity begins (1 Corinthians 15:24, 25). According to Bible chronology we are well toward the end of the six thousandth year of man's history. It is true the "experts" sneer at this Bible chronology of man, but there is no authentic proof,

written or otherwise, that proves man's history goes farther back than the Bible record. There are many theories, guesses, and suppositions but no actual proof. It is striking to note that the only authentic, tangible proof of man's existence such as written records, artifacts, etc., goes back to the logical time that it would according to the Bible chronology. Piltdown Man, one of the main "authentic" proofs of the experts that man's history went back millions of years, recently was admitted by these experts to be a hoax palmed on them by an English jokester and the assembling of this hoax, which consisted of the skull of a man and the jawbone of a chimpanzee, took place less than fifty years ago.

Another fact worthy of note is that a great pinnacle or crisis has been reached in human history approximately every 2,000 years. It was approximately 2,000 years from the creation to the flood, approximately 2,000 years from the flood to Christ and has been nearly 2,000 years from Christ till the present time. When we consider the five and one-fourth days lost by reckoning time by the astronomical year rather than the scriptural year, we find that we are much nearer the end of the 2,000 years since Christ than 1957 indicates.

If we wish to disregard all types we still have the fulfillment of the more sure word of prophecy (2 Peter 1:19), that lets us know that the end of this age is near. It is hard for the finite mind to grasp the fact that this generation is witnessing the dying throes of an age. Prophets foretold it, apostles wrote about it, martyrs died believing it would come, generation of preachers have preached about it, Christians for ages have sung about it, and from all the evidence of fulfilled Scripture this generation will see it. The wisest people on earth today are those that are consecrated to Jesus Christ and ready for the rapture.



Solid devotions resemble the rivers which run under the earth—they steal from the eyes of the world to seek the eyes of God; and it often happens that those of whom we speak least on earth, are best known in heaven.—Causin.



Failure is often God's own tool for carving some of the finest outlines in the character of his children; and, even in this life, bitter and crushing failures have often in them the gems of new and quite unimagined happiness.—T. Hodgkin.



The man who has so little knowledge of human nature as to seek happiness by changing anything but his own dispositions, will waste his life in fruitless efforts, and multiply the griefs which he proposes to remove.—Colton.



# BRETHREN, BEWARE!

By Alma Newsome

Chamblee, Georgia

WE ARE LIVING in the last days, and we have many things to be aware of today, but in this message, I shall mention only a few, namely: false Christs, false prophets, false teachers and false doctrines. Let us consider the first one mentioned, false Christs. Turn with me to Matthew 24:24: "For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." You may ask, "Do we have them in our midst today?" Let me name a few of them who are claiming to be Christ right here in America: Bishop Jones, "Messiah in Mink"; Father Divine; Bishop Grace, or "Daddy Grace," as he is sometimes spoken of by his followers.

Perhaps you have read the article about the "Messiah in Mink" in the *Saturday Evening Post*. He is a little colored man from Alabama who set up his "heaven" in the city of Detroit, Michigan. He has many followers, both white and colored. He claims to have performed a miracle on a colored woman, and out of gratitude for the so-called miracle performed on their mother, her two daughters pooled their life savings and bought Jones a mink coat; thus he derives the name of "Bishop Jones, Messiah in Mink." He is still deceiving people and receiving enormous sums of money through his deception.

Father Divine is another Negro who claims to be the Christ. He has his "heaven" in New York City, New York. His "bride" is a young white woman. He has many followers, and he also is deceiving many poor souls and is causing them to deny the true God.

In Mark's Gospel we read: "For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many," Mark 13:6. Oh, how blind the devil can cause some people to become to the truth of God's Word! These false Christs are not only deceiving men and women, but they are causing homes and hearts to be broken. Beware, my brother, sister and friend, lest you fall victim of one of the false Christs.

Again, in Mark 13:21-23, we read: "And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or lo, he is there; believe him not: For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect. But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things." My brothers and sisters, that time is surely upon us, for

I hear and read very frequently of another false Christ springing up claiming some great miracle, wonder or sign to his credit. But take ye heed, believe him not! We know in whom we have believed and are persuaded that He is able to keep that which we have committed unto Him against that day. Hallelujah! Praise the name of Jesus.

Beware of false prophets! "And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many," Matthew 24:11. "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves," Matthew 7:15. Do we actually have them today? We certainly do, my friend.

A few years ago in one of our southern cities such a prophet came and set up a large tent. He drew crowds from all churches; even a large number from the ranks of Pentecost deserted their services in order to attend his meetings. Outwardly, he was a great prophet, but inwardly, he was only a child of the devil. He claimed to have gained many souls to Christ and to have performed many miracles. A very dear friend of mine went along with him for awhile, but later he came to me and confessed that the man was a false prophet and that he had done wrong by following him in the first place. He is not alone in his act of spreading false doctrines, or in his false practice. One such man came to a certain city and claimed to have the gift of healing, and to be able to fill cavities with multi-colored fillings. He is just another false prophet. Beware of him!

Can we know the prophets that are prophesying falsely? Yes, Jesus said we can. Read with me Matthew 7:16-20, "Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

Beware of false teachers! In 2 Timothy 4:3, we read: "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall

(Continued on page 10)



CALIFORNIA STATE PARSONAGE AND OFFICES

## California's Progress Report

**P**ICTURED HERE is the new California state parsonage and offices located at First and Simpson Streets in Fresno, California. This handsome edifice is representative and symbolic of the amazing progress the state has made under its present overseer, the Reverend Ralph E. Williams. Valued at \$35,000, this house with its rambling western architecture features three bedrooms, two and a half baths, an ultramodern kitchen, a den, a Californian living room with one glassed-in wall, wall-to-wall carpeting throughout, elegant furnishings, spacious lawns, and double garage; it stands as a tribute to the ministry and laity of the Golden State who have shared the vision of their state overseer to engineer the move of the state headquarters from the isolated and inadequate facilities of Pasadena (Southern California) to the present, centrally-located, site of Fresno. This move has proved to be of God and has brought the Church of God offices from the cramped one room of a house in Pasadena to the present adjoining building of three private, air-cooled offices, a large council room, a bath, and ample storage and closet space.

This building reflects the untiring planning and work of Brother Ralph E. Williams who supervised the combined plant's planning and construction. Special recognition

must also be given Mrs. Williams who decided upon the beautiful but yet practical interior decoration and furniture which make this parsonage truly a home to be lived in rather than a glass house to admire or a museum to tour.

Housed in this parsonage of modest elegance have been the plans and prayers which have laid the

foundation of California's present administrative progress which reveals an increase of 1,200 members, many new church buildings and parsonages, ten newly organized churches, twelve functioning branch churches, and broken records in every department. This building is a symbol of California's report of progress.



CALIFORNIA YOUTH PARSONAGE

As California has loomed from struggling obscurity to self-sustaining prominence in the Church of God annals of progress, so has its youth department progressed stride for stride in etching its mark. Thus, to the sacrificing pastors who first held the title of youth director in name only and to the full-time directors who received little pay and lived in dingy apartments to pio-

neer the work for youth, the parsonage pictured here stands as a monument of progress.

Located in the friendly Mayfair neighborhood of Fresno, this five-room, \$11,500 structure with comfortable furnishings, beautiful lawns, shrubs, flowers, and fruit trees, reveals the present-day strength of the Church of God in California. Here, in comfort and



convenience, California youth directors can lead the youth of the Golden State to new horizons and heights in California's report of progress.

## WEST COAST BIBLE COLLEGE CAMPUS

Through the eyes of architect Michael Paolercio, there is pictured the lifelong vision of the Church of God's institution of learning on the West Coast—West Coast Bible College. On a twenty-acre plot of ground to be secured on Clovis Avenue at the edge of Fresno, there is to be completed a plant estimated to cost \$250,000. This master plan, however, can by no means be completed now, but on this \$20,000 property, ground-breaking will soon be under way to erect the first phase of the master plan at an approximate cost of \$90,000. This first step of construction will include two dormitories housing thirty-two each, a cafeteria, and a classroom building. As the school progresses and enrollment increases, the other phases of the master plan will be entered to meet immediate and anticipated needs.

The actual erection of the buildings is to be headed by Brother Charles H. Williamson who is working under the direction of the school's president, Brother Ralph E. Williams, and the state council and school board. Working hand in hand with these two boards are Brother Paul L. Walker, principal; Brother Robert E. Fisher, business manager, and Brother Glenn C. Grove, chairman of the school board. These, together with the ministry and membership of the Church of God in California, are looking ahead to see this vision accomplished, for in seven short years W.C.B.C. has added to California's progress report by moving from the basement of a church in Pasadena with twelve students to the Fresno Temple and two new record enrollments of 75 and 98 respectively in the last two school terms. Now with present crowded facilities forcing expansion, the Church of God high school and junior Bible college on the West Coast looks forward to new records and attainments in California's progress report.

# My Trip to Europe — and South Africa

HOUSTON R. MOREHEAD

General Overseer

## PART III

ON SUNDAY NIGHT I was scheduled to speak at the tabernacle where Brother J. F. Wooderson is serving as the pastor. This auditorium will comfortably seat about 600 people. This is a European congregation. The place was filled to its capacity. I must say that we enjoyed the beautiful music and choruses, also the lovely choir numbers, as directed by Miss Norma Cooper. Her sisters, Hope Collins and Mrs. Wooderson, were at the piano and organ. I used an evangelistic message, assuming there were those present who needed help from God. God was gracious in that he granted unto me the needed inspiration for the sermon. For this I was humbly grateful. Several came forward to seek salvation. One prominent businessman and his wife came forward and gave themselves to Jesus Christ. Others were converted. One person who especially attracted my attention was a man who was evidently an outcast, I understood that he found Jesus Christ as his Saviour that night. The pastor and many of the people were very expressive in their happiness as to the results of the service. To our God belong all the praise and thanksgiving for all that may have been accomplished.

After the service Mrs. McLuhan and family, Mrs. Morehead and I were graciously received into the Reverend and Mrs. Wooderson's home where we were served refreshments. Later in the evening we were joined by the Reverend M. G. McLuhan who had gone to Maritzburg in order to fill the pulpit for Dr. Browne.

After a night of refreshing rest at the hotel, we were soon en route to the camp site at Irene. The camp meeting was well under way upon our return, and we understood by many that it was already termed a great success and a wonderful camp meeting. The camp was well-attended. The sermons were of excellent quality, full of grace and truth.

Wednesday is usually given over to the Sisters' Union in order for them to be in charge of the services. I was thankful that Mrs. Morehead could be along with me on this trip to have fellowship with the sisters and impart to them certain information concerning our churches here in the United States of America, as well as in other parts of the world. They had previously contacted Mrs. Morehead by correspondence asking her to address the sisters on this particular day. I think you would appreciate her talk on this occasion and would have been pleased with her representation could you have been present. Many of the people, as well as the ministers, expressed their appreciation for our bringing Mrs. Morehead along to this meeting. She was a blessing not only in the meeting at Irene, but also throughout Rhodesia and in the mission stations and in the European churches. There was a kind of an association which was had by her presence that could not have been without her.

I understood that a rather large number of people were converted and baptized with the Holy Ghost during the camp meeting. The Reverend H. R. Carter, General Moderator, and his wife were very gracious and kind to us throughout

(Continued from page 11)

## BRETHREN, BEWARE!

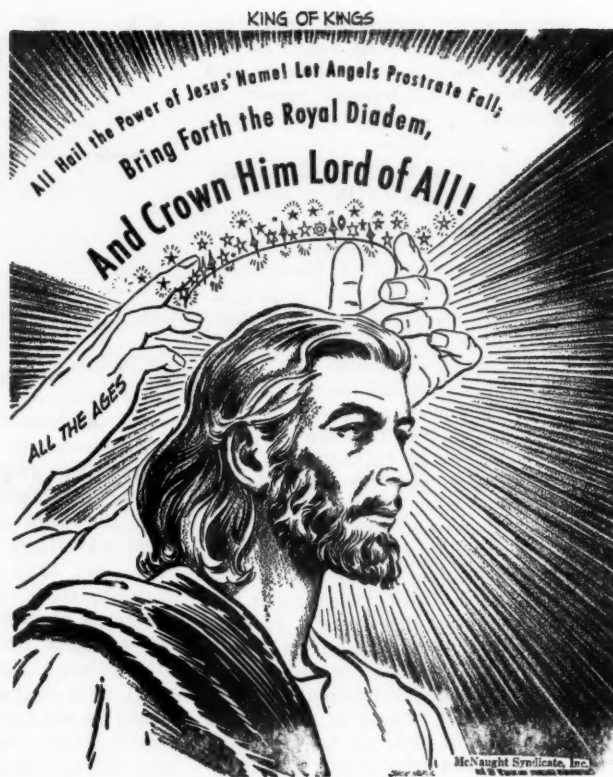
(Continued from page 7)

be turned into fables." "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men," Matthew 15:9. Today as never before, we see people turning from the truth and seeking something that will tickle their ears, they had rather hear some fancy discourse on "How the Butterfly Got Its Wings" than to hear the old-time gospel that Jesus saves! False teachers deny Christ; in 2 Peter 2:1, we read: "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction." There are many infidels in our land today, spreading such false teachings, yes, even denying the Lord who bought them. False teachers cause people to err. In Isaiah 9:15, we read: "The ancient and honourable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail. For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed."

False teachers shall deceive many, we have such in our schools and colleges today. Some deny the Virgin Birth, while others teach the theory of evolution. We have those in our churches today who deny the Holy Ghost baptism, especially speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance. These false teachers are deceiving many in America today. False teachers use smooth words. In Romans 16:17, 18, Paul, in his letter to the church in Rome, warns the people thus: "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple." My, how true those words are! Almost every day I can turn on my radio and hear someone preaching some form of doctrine that is so mellow, sweet and smooth to the ears of the ones who know not the truth. Brothers and sisters, beware of false teachers!

The last topic in my message is false doctrines. We have plenty of them around today. Beware of them! False doctrines are destructive to the soul. In 2 Timothy 2:17, 18, Paul says: "But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some." Do we have such false doctrines in our midst today? We certainly do. A year or so ago, a certain religious group came through my community spreading such rotten doctrines as these: they claimed that it is impossible for any one to be resurrected, and they also claimed that Jesus set up His righteous kingdom in the year of 1917. May God take pity upon those that spread such false doctrines and upon those who are so gullible as to accept it.

Another false doctrine is the doctrine of devils. That



takes in the practice of witchcraft, fortunetelling and other works of the devil. Beware of these things.

Paul says: "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils," 1 Timothy 4:1.

There are many false Christs, false prophets, false doctrines, and false teachers in the world today. But there is only one true God, one true Christ, one true doctrine and they are eternal. In 1 John 4:13, we read: "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: every Spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: and every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." In 1 John 5:12, 20, 21, we read: "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen." In closing, my admonition to you is: **BRETHREN, BEWARE!**

## CAN A CHRISTIAN BE DEMON POSSESSED?

(Continued from page 3)

None would deny, however, that he for that moment had a severe and terrible affliction of leprosy.

Possession involves ownership. What we possess, we own. What a demon possesses, he owns. To be demon possessed, even in body, means that the demon owns the body. What a horrible, unreasonable and anti-scriptural suggestion. The body of a child of God is the temple of the Holy Ghost; it is God-owned, God-possessed, God-occupied and in every way totally His. Paul makes this emphatic in 1 Corinthians 6:19, "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your *body*, and in your *spirit*, which are God's."

The terrible suggestion that a Christian body can be demon possessed is not an accusation against the Christian but against the Lord. It shames His love and reviles His power. It suggests that He will share a Christian with the devil; like duplex tenants, He will possess the spirit while the devil occupies the body. It is not so. God knocks at the door of our lives; when we open the door and let Him in, He sups, or dines in fellowship, with us, and we with Him (Revelation 3:20). The devil cannot have any part with this holy communion.

If he could have, it would make God a liar when His Word has said, "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4). It would make vile mockery of God's Word; "And what concord hath Christ with Belial? . . . And what agreement hath

the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (2 Corinthians 6:15, 16).

If demons can break through the blood line of Christ to possess the bodies of the redeemed of Christ, then demons are more powerful than He. This is a dangerous belief, for it tears away our foundation of hope. I belong to God. I am His property—spirit, soul and body. Any demonic power that would possess me must contend with the One who possesses me. I am no longer my own, for I have been bought with a price—the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. No demon has power to violate that divine possession.

An unconverted church member cannot have that assurance, no matter how morally good he may be. His condition is described in Matthew 12:43-45. Because of the person's self-reformation the devil may leave him for a season. Note that the demon *goes* out of the man instead of being *cast* out. If he had been driven out, then the power that cast him out could certainly be able to keep him out, but it was not so. The demon retained possession of the man so that even while he was gone out of him he referred to the man as "*my* house."

But the Christian is *God's* house. He has not been merely swept and garnished, but he is washed by the blood of the Lamb. The devil has been *cast* out, and has not merely *gone* out for a season. A Christian man is not *empty* as was the man of Matthew 12, but abiding in him are the God of heaven, the Christ of Calvary, and the Holy Ghost of eternity.

We who are Christians need have no doubt or dread or fear. We belong to God—spirit, soul and body.

## MY TRIP TO EUROPE AND SOUTH AFRICA

(Continued from page 9)

our stay with them in South Africa, and so were all the other ministers and laymen of the Church. I am truly indebted to all of them for their unselfish hospitality which they extended to us during our visit among them. I would like to mention many of them in person at this point, but time and space will not allow it. Much could be said as to the sermons, the informative lectures, the beautiful songs, the music, the able chairmanship of the moderator, and the quality of the services. All were of high merit. However, suffice it to say, God was in our midst. For all of this we are glad.

I was invited to address the camp on Saturday morning. A most inspiring congregation was before me. The glory of the Lord was present and lingered with the people in a

most unusual way throughout the remainder of the day and night. Surely the Lord is good and His mercies endure forever.

I was privileged to be present in their Executive Council, also their General Conference. I was pleased to observe the harmony and fellowship which prevailed in these business sessions. It was evident that all had the will and desire to seek and pursue unity and harmony throughout all their sessions to promote the cause of Christ. The Reverend H. R. Carter was chosen to serve as moderator for the ensuing two years. Contentment and satisfaction were clearly indicated by the ministers and laymen in that he was again elected to lead the Church.

I was especially sorry to learn that the Reverend William O'Kelly, the General Secretary-Treasurer, had been so ill. Too, he had suffered an automobile accident. Yet,

through it all God was gracious to him in that he was rapidly recovering from his illness and accident and was able to be present in the camp. He was also selected to serve for another term in the office of General Secretary-Treasurer. He will need our prayers that God will give him physical strength in order to carry on the heavy responsibilities which are his.

The final business session closed on Wednesday afternoon, after which Brother McLuhan and I motored to Berea at Kroonstad. We arrived after dark. Having enjoyed a few hours' rest and a delicious breakfast prepared and served by Sister McLuhan, all of us were in a stir to pack and make ready for our trip into the bush to visit the native work deep in the heart of dark Africa.

(To be continued)





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# testimonies

## Praises God for Blessings

HOMERVILLE, Ga.—I want to send my testimony to thank and praise my blessed Saviour for His many blessings to me. He always answers my prayers, taking care of everything and supplying all of my needs. I want to thank Him for His healing power. The Lord means more to me than I can ever tell. Pray that God will save my family and give us a home of prayer in the beauty of holiness.

—Mrs. Sam Cook

## Healed of Severe Nervousness

SECTION, Ala.—I should like to testify to God's healing power. I was so nervous that it looked as if I would have a complete nervous breakdown. I could not eat or sleep and lost about 35 pounds. I was so weak I was hardly able to be up. I got Sister Charlotte Taylor and Sister Ruby Thomas to pray for me and God has healed me. Praise the Lord.

—Mrs. W. E. Harris

## Fund Started for Pastor's Son

ANDERSON, S. C.—One morning as I started out to visit a sick lady, I saw a little boy sitting in a wheel chair on the porch across the street. I went over to the house and asked him his name and what had happened to him. He was Jackie Ayers, the son of a Church of God minister, the Reverend and Mrs. Hester Ayers.

The Ayers family had been in a wreck in Selma, Alabama, in August of 1953. I had read about it in the paper. I knew Brother Ayers and had seen him shortly before the wreck. Mrs. Ayers and their daughter were killed and Brother Ayers died shortly after the wreck. The bodies were returned to Anderson and I went to the home where the bodies were. There were two members of the family that lived: Jackie, a boy six years old, whose legs were broken eight times, his left knee and ankle crushed, and Lavern, a boy three years old, who was not injured badly.

Although I had read about Jackie in the paper I did not remember

how badly he was hurt. The morning I met him his grandmother told me about it.

Jackie had stayed in the hospital after the wreck seven months. It was thought best to remove his leg. Three operations were performed instead.

In January of 1957, Jackie had been having trouble with his leg. He was admitted to the Shriner's Hospital in Greenville, South Carolina. He had the fourth operation. By the last of February he was permitted to return to his home because he was losing so much weight and would not eat as he should.

He used a wheel chair for three months and then later used two crutches. His last visit to the hospital he started wearing shoes, the left shoe is built up. He is wearing the shoes and using one crutch now. He is to check this month with the hospital.

Jackie has had a private teacher for his school work for two terms.

The morning I met him I learned he was soon to have his tenth birthday. I felt impressed to try to brighten up that day for him. I was also impressed to start a music fund for him.

I wrote to a radio station in Greenville, South Carolina, and asked a man there to announce about Jackie on his gospel train program for a birthday card show-er. Jackie received a good amount of cards and some gifts. A friend and I took up an offering to get him a present. God helped us and we got him nice presents.

We have the music fund started now. The papers ran a notice about it for two days. The music fund is sponsored by class No. 4 of McDuffie Street Church of God Sunday School. I am the teacher; Mrs. Dock Dudley is the assistant. The Reverend Max Atkins is the pastor.

I learned that if Jackie could take music, guitar and accordion were the instruments he would prefer to play. There was a used guitar given. Our fund is only started. We do not have the accordion yet and we have only a small amount of money. A lady has agreed to teach him piano free of charge. I believe God will help to see the fund raised. He has helped me many times.

Jackie lives with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ayers, 313 H Street, Anderson, South Carolina. My address is 211 I Street, Anderson, South Carolina.

—Mrs. Leila Ables

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### Former Pastor Returns for Revival

AUGUSTA, Maine—We have just closed a three-week revival at the Augusta Church of God with Ruth E. Justin, from Somerset, Pennsylvania, as the evangelist. She has pastored here in the past. We were glad to welcome her back to hold special meetings. Our beloved sister in Christ preached inspiring messages every night. The spirituality and attendance were good; the altar was filled every night with seekers; a number were saved and the saints were revived. Sister Justin visited the sick and numbers were healed. She is also very good with the young people. The last night we had a full house; extra chairs had to be brought in and wrongs were made right. Sister Justin will bless any church with her inspiring messages.

—Lida Ricker, reporter

### Thirty-two Conversions in Johnson City

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. — We have just had a four-week, old-time Holy Ghost revival in Johnson City, Tennessee. Thirty-two were saved, 19 sanctified, 14 filled with the Holy Ghost, 18 baptized in water and 14 added to the Church. The power of the Lord was present to heal in each service and we also had some great healing services. It is truly wonderful how the Lord is using Brother and Sister Duncan and their fine children to bring the Church of God to the front in Johnson City.

—C. B. Donahue, evangelist

### Fifteen Converted in Hattiesburg

HATTIESBURG, Miss.—We just had a two and a half weeks' revival with Brother Freddie Herring, from Columbus, Georgia, as the evangelist. The Lord met with us in a mighty way. Eleven received healing for their teeth and people were slain under the power of God. Fifteen were saved, 5 filled with the Holy Ghost. Pray for us that we will ever be in the center of God's will. —Rev. A. E. Rayborn, pastor

### 73-Year-Old Lady Receives Holy Ghost

HOUSTON, Miss.—We have just had a revival at the Thorn Church of God, the greatest the church has had in several years. Fifteen were saved, 9 sanctified, 8 filled with the Holy Ghost and 4 added to the Church. Among those was a lady 73 years old who received the Holy Ghost. We hope to have more join later.

Our church was greatly blessed. Our evangelist was the Reverend J. W. Bilbo. We highly recommend him to any church.

—J. A. Lombard, pastor

### Young Evangelist Is a Blessing

FAIRFIELD, Ill.—“May our God be praised” are the words that come to our minds and lips when we think of the great blessings of God upon the Church of God at Fairfield, Illinois. We have just had a highly successful revival with evangelist Shelby Pierce, of Peoria, Illinois. This 17-year-old preacher blessed the congregation with his messages in sermon and song. In the eight days of the meeting there were 4 converted, 5 sanctified, 5 filled with the Holy Ghost, 5 baptized in water and 3 united with the Church.

The Sunday night before the revival started the Spirit of God had moved graciously among us when, without any preaching, 8 persons received experiences. We counted 5 saved, 5 sanctified and 5 filled with the Holy Ghost. We are praying the Lord to continue His great work that has been going on in our midst. All glory be to God.

—E. R. Adams, pastor

### Outstanding Revivals in Michigan

BENTON HARBOR, Mich. — A great revival started May 19 and continued to June 23, 1957, at the Benton Harbor, Michigan, Church of God. We had good cooperation and fellowship with all. It was a pleasure to work with Brother Chapin and his fine people. Thirty-four were saved, 26 sanctified, 7 filled with the Holy Ghost, 33 bap-

tized in water and 21 united with the Church. Five nights of this revival were conducted at Jericho. The Reverend James Dilts is the pastor. Forty were saved, 30 sanctified, 7 filled with the Holy Ghost, 14 baptized in water, and 22 added to the Church during the meeting at the tabernacle in Detroit, Michigan. Pray for us that God will continue to bless us in our work for Him and the Church of God.

—Rev. A. H. Tribble

### Good Meeting in New Field

MARTIN, Tenn. — A revival is now in progress at Martin, Tennessee, at the corner of Broadway and Rebecca Streets. God is blessing. There was a good crowd last Sunday night, August 4, 1957. Two were converted and 2 sanctified and it is still going. A number have been healed by the power of God and the laying on of hands of the saints. This is a new field and the people here have never heard very much about the Church of God. Please pray for God to give us a great revival. I am thanking and praising God for His great love to me. I was saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and united with the Church of God when I was 13 years old and have worked for the Lord in Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky and now in Martin, Tennessee. I still sing, play the guitar, pray, testify and preach and shout when I get happy. Praise His sweet name. We would be happy to have you visit us in Martin. My address is: Box 65.

—L. J. Potts

### Young Evangelist Leads Thirty to Christ

CANTON, Ohio—We just closed a wonderful two-week revival with 17-year-old Carl H. Richardson as the evangelist and Fred Mercer, talented song director. Brother Richardson, a dynamic speaker and talented musician, was used of the Lord in a marvelous way. People of all ages streamed to the altar to give their hearts to God as Brother Richardson spoke with the authority of a seasoned minister. The revival was well-attended and was centered around the youth of the church as different young people had charge of devotions each night. Thirty were saved, 21 sanctified, 10 filled with the Holy Ghost and 6 added to the Church. In addition to this there were approximately 20 children saved in Sunday morning services. We are praising the Lord for these results and the wonderful revival spirit it has left in our church.

—John Schrade, Jr., clerk



### Church Reports Great Revival

SMITHFIELD, N. C.—The *Evangelist* received a telephone call on Sunday night, September 15, from Brother Henry Liles of Smithfield, North Carolina. He and the church are happy about the great revival that is now in progress there with James Poe Jackson as the evangelist. After one week there have been 41 saved, 10 sanctified, 6 baptized with the Holy Ghost and 19 added to the Church. Large crowds are attending each service. We join the Smithfield church in prayer for continued success for their revival.

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### Pastor's Wife Conducts Meeting

CINCINNATI, Ohio.—The Church of God at McMicken Street has just closed a revival with Sister Carl Jetts, the pastor's wife, as the evangelist. Two were saved, 5 baptized in water and 3 added to the Church. The church was uplifted by the power of the Holy Ghost and is still on the move for the Lord. Pray for our church to grow in the Lord.

—Mrs. Martha Brock, clerk

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### Forty-six Conversions in Ocoee

OCOEE, Fla.—During the month of August the Church of God at Ocoee, Florida, was blessed with an old-fashioned, Holy-Ghost-filled revival. The Reverend R. C. Horton, pastor of the Kissimmee, Florida, Church of God was the evangelist.

The Lord wondrously blessed and at the close of the revival there had been about 46 saved, 23 sanctified, 18 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 40 baptized in water and 35 united with the Church.

Through the cooperation and personal work of Brother Horton and Brother S. J. Davis, our pastor, the revival was a great success, and we feel that the church as a whole was wondrously blessed.

—Reporter

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### Family of Five Converted in Same Meeting

CRESTVIEW, Fla.—I want to report a revival the Lord sent our way. Our pastor, Brother W. D. Hopkins, began revival services and continued for about a week, then Brother B. Day, of Whitesburg, Kentucky, was the evangelist for another 2 weeks. The Lord honored their efforts with 8 forgiven of

their sins (5 of these were out of one family, the father, mother and 3 children). Seven were baptized in water. The love of God was manifested in a great measure during this revival. Please pray that God will continue to bless and forgive souls at the Crestview Church of God.

—Brother E. L. Turner

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### Church "Will Never Forget" Blessings of Revival

GARDENDALE, Ala.—We have just had a revival with Brother Willard Johns as the evangelist. Two were saved, 5 sanctified, 3 filled with the Holy Ghost and many were blessed. I don't think we could have found a better evangelist anywhere. The people at Gardendale will never forget him. I feel that our church is spiritually lifted and that the results will be felt for months.

—Carl McCrary, pastor

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### Tennessee Evangelist Leads Successful Revival in Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — The Minneapolis Church of God recently had a three-week revival with the Reverend Charles B. Donahue, from Chattanooga, Tennessee, as the evangelist. Our church was greatly blessed. During the revival 13 adults united with the Church. While Brother Donahue was here we sold our old church building and purchased a new brick church in which we conducted the last week of the revival. Brother Donahue is one of the Church's leading evangelists and will be a blessing to any church.

—James N. Layne, pastor

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### Great Crowds and Spiritual Blessings

PRINCETON, W. Va. — We are praising God for the wonderful three-week revival just held at the Crawley Church. This was an outstanding meeting and the Lord blessed from the beginning. We had a full house each night. Thirteen were saved, 10 sanctified, 7 baptized in the Holy Ghost and 17 baptized in water. Four were united with the Church and the last night of the revival 4 were saved and said they were coming in the Church. The power of God fell in a wonderful way. Men and women were slain under the power of God. The Holy Ghost brought some wonderful messages. We were blessed with the interpretations. Both the

saved and the unsaved were stirred. Many sick bodies were healed. This is the best revival we have had at the Crawley Church. The revival spirit is still with us, and souls are rejoicing for the great outpouring of the Spirit of God. Sister Jessie Mae Isom was the evangelist and we thank God for her. She brought wonderful messages each night. If you need a revival, you will be blessed by having Sister Isom. It is wonderful the way God uses her in the services. She will be a blessing to your church. We welcome her back to Crawley any time. Pray for us that God will continue to save souls.

—Bueford Morris, reporter

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### Evangelist Leads Fourteen Souls to Christ

LONG BEACH, Calif.—We have just had a great three-week revival here in Long Beach, California, where James E. Marks is the pastor. Fourteen were saved, 8 sanctified, and 4 filled with the Holy Ghost. Bertis N. Miles, of Welch, Oklahoma, was the evangelist. Many said this was one of the best revivals in years. The power of God fell almost every night. Many testified of being healed. The revival was well-attended.

—Reporter

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### Lee College Student Conducts Revival

PORTLAND, JAMAICA, B.W.I.—We have just enjoyed a great revival here in Port Antonio, Jamaica, B. W. I. The Reverend Robert May, a student of Lee College, was the evangelist. We have received great blessings from God which resulted in many souls being saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. God wonderfully used Brother May and we are looking forward to his return. The Church of God is on the move here in Port Antonio. Remember us in your prayers.

—T. E. Wilson, pastor

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### Sixteen Converted in Omaha Meeting

OMAHA, Nebr.—The North Omaha church is happy to report the results of our salvation and healing revival, June 9-26, with evangelist Della Patrick, of Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. Sixteen were saved, 8 sanctified, 8 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 6 united with the Church and 3 were instantly healed, for which we are praising God. We know that God is blessing in a mission state through fasting and prayer.

—Rev. Robert B. Ingersoll

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